

AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 8, which bridges pages 7-8, with the following new paragraph:

--The first step in isolating the gpm gene or other genes from *C. glutamicum* is to construct a gene library of this microorganism in *E. coli*. The construction of gene libraries is documented in generally well-known textbooks and handbooks. Examples which may be mentioned are the textbook by Winnacker entitled From Genes to Clones, Introduction to Gene Technology (Verlag Chemie, Weinheim, Germany, 1990) or the handbook by Sambrook et al. entitled Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 1989). A very well-known gene library is that of the *E. coli* K-12 strain W3110, which was constructed by Kohara et al. (Cell 50, 495-508 (1987)) in .lambda. vectors. Bathe et al. (Molecular and General Genetics 252, 255-265, 1996) describe a gene library of *C. glutamicum* ATCC13032, which was constructed using cosmid vector SuperCos I (Wahl et al., 1987, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 84, 2160-2164) in the *E. coli* K-12 strain NM554 (Raleigh et al., 1988, Nucleic Acids Research 16, 1563-1575). Bormann et al., 1992, (Molecular Microbiology 6(3), 317-326) in turn describe a gene library of *C. glutamicum* ATCC13032 using cosmid pHC79 (Hohn and Collins, Gene 11, 291-298 (1980)). A gene library of *C. glutamicum* in *E. coli* can also be constructed using plasmids like pBR322 (Bolivar, Life Sciences 25, 807-818 (1979)) or pUC9 (Viera et al., 1982, Gene 19, 259-268). Restriction- and recombination-defective *E. coli* strains are particularly suitable as hosts, an example being the strain DH5.alpha.mcr, which has been described by Grant et al. (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 87 (1990) 4645-4649). The long DNA fragments cloned with the aid of cosmids can then in turn be subcloned into common vectors suitable for sequencing, and subsequently sequenced, e.g. as described by Sanger et al. (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America 74, 5463-5467, 1977).--